

Rise & Shine

Benefiting from glorious views of the coast, this awesome light-filled new-build is the ideal holiday retreat

Report: Ysanne Brooks Photography: Darren Chung

Terry and Jeanette McCann's home couldn't be in a more perfect spot. Perched on a hill overlooking a small bay in Devon, the site, including the stunning double-fronted new-build home that sits on it, is the result of a patient search for just the right piece of land. "We had been looking for a suitable plot for some time, although as we already have a holiday home in the area we were fairly relaxed about the search," reveals Terry. "When this one came onto the market, however, we knew it was right. Location is everything and the views here are second to none."

"When we bought the land in February 2008 it had a contemporary 1960s house on it," he continues. "We knew it wasn't suitable for the 21st-century living we envisaged, so we planned to demolish it and rebuild." After two failed attempts to find the right design, it was third time lucky for Terry and Jeanette. The resulting design by Chris Cunningham from architectural practice Harrison Sutton is a stunning double-fronted home with masses of glass to make the most of the views. "When Jeanette and I are here on our own we live almost entirely on the first floor. It's super to just walk out of the bedroom in the morning into the dining room and kitchen," remarks Terry.

Terry commissioned interior designer Sally Haynes to create a scheme for the north-facing kitchen that helped to make the most of the views. "I was keen to keep the task areas to the island, so if the clients are working at the hob, prepping at the sink, or just relaxing with a coffee, the amazing views are there at a glance," she explains. "I also felt that the furniture needed to reflect the contemporary architecture, but still create a comfortable, homely environment to be enjoyed in summer and winter."

Sally's ideas were then taken to a number of companies, but it was a recommendation from a neighbour that led Terry to Charles Yorke. "I met with designer James Ellis and together we visited Charles Yorke's workshop and I was impressed by both the quality of its work and its efficiency," reveals Terry. "It wasn't the cheapest quote, but I felt I could work with James and that was really important to me."

"The most important part of the brief was that the kitchen should not impose on the view," recalls James. "The only other key request was that it should be very simple in design and had to be green or blue – for obvious reasons. The layout was kept simple, with the large fridge-freezer being the most dominant feature."

Touches of American black walnut have been used throughout the scheme to add definition, including the circular breakfast bar with its unparalleled views over the bay. "It's a perfect place to park the grandchildren," admits Terry. "Jeanette sits them there and she can watch over them while she prepares breakfast. Although we'd had fabulous sliding doors fitted, I thought we'd never be opening them since the kitchen is north-facing. Outside the doors is a glass Juliet balcony and last summer we opened up those doors every day. I can easily lean on the balcony and while away the hours just watching the boats go by," he smiles.

After making a few tweaks to Sally's initial design, James's resulting scheme uses flat-fronted cabinetry painted in a bespoke shade of grey-green that echoes the light outside. "By far the greatest challenge for us in the kitchen was the granite work surface," says James. "I wanted the worktop to blend seamlessly with ▶



A capacious island is the central focus of this large, light-filled kitchen. Painted in a bespoke grey-green shade from Charles Yorke, it holds a dishwasher and lots of storage for pots and pans. Another nice touch is the integrated trays.



Right and below: The vast dining table is topped with onyx, which was sourced in Italy at the same time as the work surfaces in the kitchen. When turned on at night, the pendant arrangement above it casts a glow that pulls out the surface's sparkling elements. When night falls, meanwhile, blinds are pulled to prevent the surrounding glass becoming an unsightly wall of black.

Opposite page: The large stainless-steel fridge-freezer, two ovens, steam oven and combination microwave, two warming drawers and the induction hob on the island are all from Miele, providing a coordinated look.



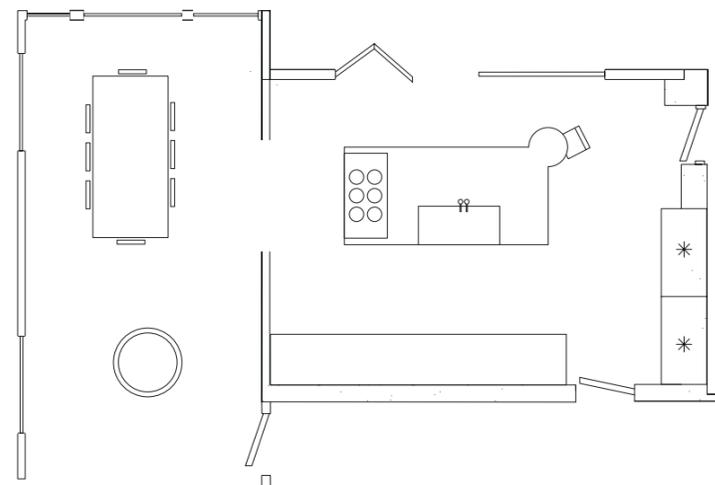
the exterior so a dark colour was out of the question as it would be too harsh on the eye. If you're not going for a dark colour, the only way to get it right in my opinion is to visit Italy! So off we went with our paint samples and that fantastic view fixed in our minds to find exactly the right shade of granite.

"We found it in the shape of the pale Princess White, which was then cut, polished and shipped to the UK ready for us to fit," James adds. "Another important element was the sink. Jeanette wanted a functional, easy-to-use sink, so she opted for a clean-lined Kohler model and I always insist on the Quooker twin taps – they complement each other perfectly."

The soft colours and materials used in the kitchen are echoed elsewhere in the house. The furniture in the guest bedroom on the ground floor was also built and fitted by Charles Yorke. Here, the warm-toned American black walnut was used to create a fitted wardrobe with sliding doors and beautifully crafted drawers inside. A simple palette of off-whites, creams and browns has been used in the rest of the room to give a calming, relaxing atmosphere. In another guest room, bespoke off-white painted floor-to-ceiling wardrobes sit either side of a dressing table, the drawers of which have quirky pebbles for handles. It's just another subtle nod to the building's coastal location.

Charles Yorke was also responsible for creating the cream-painted vanity unit that sits on a false wall in the master bathroom where the neutral theme is continued, with one notable exception – a stunning mosaic tiled wall panel. Sitting against the mixed Jara stone floor and wall tiles, it's a bold use of colour, pattern and texture. "The mural also helps to visually lead you past the 'his and hers' basins and into the 'his and hers' showers, which are naturally lit from a skylight above," explains Sally.

Throughout this new-build, the surrounding countryside has been used as a living, breathing mood board. It has influenced the beautifully decorative palette of colours, patterns and textures of the interiors without becoming a parody of seaside living. Terry and Jeanette are delighted with the finished result. "We're really, really pleased with the house. Local agents say it's the best house in that area they've ever seen and I can't disagree," smiles Terry. [KBB](#)





Above: Floor-to-ceiling built-in cupboards flank a dressing table with a large mirror behind it in one of the guest bedrooms. The quirky pebble handles are from Turnstyle Designs and are yet another nod to the house's seaside location.

Left: Simple sliding walnut wardrobe doors conceal beautifully crafted storage for every clothing eventuality. As with the rest of the house, neutral tones abound in all the soft furnishings, creating a cohesive and calming atmosphere.

Opposite page: A central circular open fire, which was sourced in France, marks a divide between the dining area and the sitting room but provides both warmth and a focal point for the whole space. Here, as elsewhere, sea greens and blues are used as accent colours against a neutral, almost sandy background.



Gentle tones of stone and cream help to ensure the 'his and hers' master bathroom has a relaxing feel. Behind the false wall sits one of the two shower cubicles. "I had 'his and hers' showers fitted so Jeanette would have no excuse not to be ready on time," jokes Terry. The tiled fern mural adds a splash of colour to the room.

SourceBook

DESIGN

Architecture Chris Cunningham of Harrison Sutton Partnership (01803 865084 or www.harrisonsutton.com)

Kitchen design James Ellis at Charles Yorke (01623 756080 or www.charlesyorke.com)

Interior design Sally Haynes (07774 935618)

KITCHEN

Cabinetry The Valencia range painted in bespoke grey-green with walnut breakfast bar and inset tray details, Charles Yorke, as before

Worktops Princess White granite sourced in Italy by Charles Yorke, as before

Flooring Cream stone. For similar try Paris Ceramics (020 7371 7778 or www.parisceramics.com)

Appliances Two ovens, steam oven, combination microwave, two warming drawers, dishwasher and fridge-freezer, all Miele (0845 365 6600 or www.miele.co.uk)

Sink and tap Deerfield sink,

Kohler (0844 571 0048 or www.kohler.co.uk); Quooker Nordic Round twin taps (0808 115 2442 or www.quooker.com)

Barstools Alicia walnut barstool in brown, Atlantic Shopping (0121 230 1644 or www.atlanticshopping.co.uk)

DINING ROOM

Dining table Custom-made walnut table with Onyx top by Charles Yorke, as before

Dining chairs For similar try the Maddox leather armchair in cream from Atlantic Shopping, as before

Pendant lights For similar try Curiousa & Curiousa (01629 826284 or www.curiousaandcuriousa.co.uk)

SITTING AREA

Fire Contemporary central fireplace by JC Bordelet, imported from France (+33 467027474 or www.bordelet.com)

Sofa For similar try the Alex sofa, John Lewis (0845 604 9049 or www.johnlewis.com)

Chairs For similar try the Mario armchair, John Lewis, as before

Coffee table For similar try the T73 contemporary coffee table, Ghyczy (+31 475504422 or www.ghyczy.com)

Dresser and sideboard Custom-made and hand-painted in a bespoke blue-black by Charles Yorke, as before.

Handles by Turnstyle Designs (01271 325325 or www.turnstyledesigns.com)

Pendant lighting For similar try Curiousa & Curiousa, as before

GUEST BEDROOM ONE

Wardrobes Walnut slide-door wardrobes, custom-made by Charles Yorke, as before

Bed linen For similar try The White Company (0844 736 4222 or www.thewhitecompany.com)

Rug Sisal rug with brown trim. For similar try The Crucial Rug Store (0845 076 0086 or www.crucialrugstore.co.uk)

GUEST BEDROOM TWO

Wardrobes and dressing table

Custom-made by Charles Yorke, as before. Pebble handles by Turnstyle Designs, as before

Chair For similar try John Lewis, as before

MASTER BATHROOM

Vanity unit Custom-made by Charles Yorke, as before

Basin For similar try Duravit (0845 500 7787 or www.duravit.co.uk)

Taps For similar try Tapstore (0843 658 0062 or www.tapstore.com)

Walls and floor tiles Mixed Jura. For similar try Mandarin Stone (01600 715444 or www.mandarinstone.com)

Mural For similar try Fired Earth (0845 366 0400 or www.firedearth.com)

COST

Kitchens from Charles Yorke start at £20,000, bedrooms from £15,000 and bathrooms from £10,000